

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 07658 171210Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----118775 171213Z /46
O 171200Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9995

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 7658

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US, IV, XF
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

REF: STATE 205977

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER AKE, CHARGE
DELIVERED TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER, WITH FRENCH
TRANSLATION, MORNING AUGUST 17 TO SECRETARY GENERAL
OF GOVERNMENT ALAIN BELKIRI. BELKIRI SAID HE WOULD
BRING IT QUICKLY TO ATTENTION OF PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-
BOIGNY WHO HAD JUST RETURNED TO ABIDJAN LATE AFTER-
NOON AUGUST 16 AFTER THREE-MONTH ABSENCE IN EUROPE.

2. BELKIRI READ LETTER AND COMMENTED THAT IN TELEPHONE
CONVERSATION SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE, HOUPHOUET HAD
STRESSED HIS DEEP CURRENT CONCERN FOR NEED TO FIND
PEACE IN PRINCIPAL WORLD AND AFRICAN TROUBLE SPOTS,
INCLUDING MIDDLE EAST. WHILE BELKIRI EXPRESSED FEAR
THAT FAILURE IN CAMP DAVID TALKS WOULD HAVE DANGEROUS
CONSEQUENCES, HE ITERATED GOIC'S SUPPORT, APPARENTLY
MENTIONED BY HOUPHOUET IN THAT PHONE CONVERSATION,
FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVE IN ARRANGING THE
MEETING AND STRESSED IVORIAN HOPES FOR ITS SUCCESS.

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3. COMMENT: MESSAGE IN PRESIDENT'S LETTER IS FULLY
IN TUNE WITH HOUPHOUET'S GENERAL PREDILECTION FOR
SEARCHING FOR PEACE THROUGH DIALOGUE. WE BELIEVE
HOUPHOUET WILL CONTINUE TO EXHIBIT SUPPORT FOR U.S.
PEACE EFFORTS IN MIDDLE EAST.
FRIEDMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Handling Restrictions:
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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